

July 6, 1953

Dear Phil:

Received: reports, serums, and letters (date July), though by no means digested.

Am returning Iseki reprints as requested, herewith.

I am glad we have the ms. fairly well cleaned up for now. But please leave instructions on reprints, especially as the question is likely to come up while you're away West.

I would like to check up on V form variation sometime. I should have some IV XII serum for it, but can begin with materials on hand. I will be looking forward to the E1-E2 cultures, if Bruner can send them. If a phage does show up, I will not attempt to do the somatic antigen diagnoses myself, but will return (a very few) likely ones to you. I asked for anatum-newington pairs, because you once quoted this fact to me as evidence that these were of common origin by variation in the animal. If you don't believe this any longer, forget the request.

These "sticky" phases are very bothersome in the N97 and abortus-equi stories. I haven't the faintest idea why this should happen. Do you know if any one has seriously tried to determine how frequently and how long one could get phases/ reversals in typical diphasics? (Using single colony reisolations at each step, of course). E.G., Could one really get a typical TM to go 1:1, 2:1, 2:1, 2:1.... indefinitely at daily intervals. One would think so, but I've never tried it beyond four or five steps all together.

Would you send me back CDC 2034-53? I can't understand its present monophasic habit, unless this is a new variation which would be quite useful.

I will have to write Moran that the cultures she sent as abortus-equi are abortus-bovis. It may have been just a slip of the pen at Ky...— it cost me a week's work.

Sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg